

Possibly few realize the vastness of the Colonial Empire of Great Britain. Let us take a glimpse of it: British India heads the list with its teeming population of 150 million souls, but only an area of 988,901 square miles. British North America stands first in point of extent, having an aggregate area of about three million square miles, but its population rises little above four millions—about one and a half to the square mile. A great amount of filling up to be done here yet. To particularise: The Dominion of Canada as at present bounded has 376,987 square miles and a population of 3,753,000 (presumably four million now); Newfoundland, 40,200 square miles, and 130,000 people; Prince Edward Island, 2173 square miles, and 90,000 inhabitants; British Columbia, 213,000 square miles and a population of 120,000. It is left to the vast intervening territory to make up the balance. And it is this enormous territory, with its immeasurable resources, almost a world within itself, out of which is being formed a second British Empire. Not far behind in extent is Australasia, with its 2,582,070 square miles, and a population fast approaching two millions, although only 1,662,063 in 1866. The extent of Western Australia is 978,000 square miles, a territory as large as British India, but with a population of only 21,065, in the year 1866,—being less than a 700th part of that of India. Queensland has 678,000 square miles and a population of 96,172; South Australia 383,228 square miles, with a population of 163,452; New South Wales 323,437 square miles, with a population of 431,412; New Zealand 106,259 square miles, with a population of 208,082; Victoria has been so conspicuous by its great prosperity that people are apt to forget its comparatively small extent—86,831 square miles, but with a population of only 700,000. Tasmania comprises 26,215 square miles, with 97,308 inhabitants. The West India Islands contain no more than 12,683 square miles, but the population approaches a million. Jamaica has half the area, 6,400 square miles, and not far from half the population, viz., in the year 1861, 411,225. The Cape of Good Hope and Natal add 216,775 square miles to the British Possessions, with a population of 759,216; Ceylon 24,700 square miles and 2,088,027 people; Mauritius 708 square miles and 310,000 of population; British Guiana 220,000 square miles and 148,026 people; Honduras has 13,000 square miles and 26,500 people. The other colonies and possessions—the Straits Settlements, Hongkong, West African Settlement, Liberia, St Helena, the eight Falklands, Bermuda, Gibraltar, Malta—being the extent of the possessions of the Kingdom beyond the sea, up to over four and a half million square miles, and their population to 161,486,000—a number which has doubtless greatly increased since the days of these estimates and enumerations. Including the British North American possessions, and linking the whole to the Mother Country, the Metropolis of this vast domain, the Queen's realm will be found to comprise territory of about seven millions of English square miles, with a population including 200,000,000 souls! The reader may experience a feeling of fatigue in wading through these figures; but it is well that the subjects of a monarch whose flag waves over one-third of the earth's surface, and who rules one-fourth of the earth's population, should bestow an occasion to think upon the subject. We premise these considerations fully to introduce the subject of the Colonial policy of the parent Empire. A painful misapprehension recently took hold of the Colonial mind respecting that policy. The idea got abroad that the Queen held her colonial possessions lightly—was, in fact, altogether indifferent about their retention. The spirit in which this idea was met by colonists everywhere must have afforded gratifying and conclusive proof of loyalty and undying attachment to the Throne. This misapprehension—for there is no longer doubt that it was such—appears to have had its origin in the brusque firmness with which the colonial policy of the present Government found expression through Earl Granville, especially in its application to the very trying, yet not generally understood case of New Zealand. It is generally known now that the present Government is in reality only carrying out the policy of previous Governments in this respect. Nor is there reason to think that the Colonial Empire is held more lightly now than at any former period, but rather the reverse. The great aim of the present policy would appear to be to teach the colonies the important and many lessons of self-reliance, and in order to do this apparent harshness may sometimes characterise the administration of colonial affairs. The feeling of almost indignation aroused by the misapprehension to which allusion has been made, was by no means confined to the colonists. It aroused the home mind as well; and the occurrence is scarcely to be regretted, in that it has served to evoke an expression both at home and abroad which can hardly fail in producing good fruit. Quite recently a petition to the Queen, having the signatures of 40,000 of the working people of London, and praying Her Majesty to maintain existing relations with the colonies, was presented to the Right

New Advertisements.

THEATRE ROYAL.
VICTORIA

LESSER & MANAG'R. Mr. F. M. BATES
STAGE MANAGER. J. H. VIN-ON
MAGNISLE. D. D. BOHNS
SCENIC ARTIST. JOHN BESON

BENEFIT OF MR. F. M. BATES

Mrs. F. M. Bates!
Supported by a Company of unequalled
excellence.

FRIDAY EVENING, APRIL 1,
Will be performed

FAIR OF FESTIVITIES,
PAULINE MRS. F. M. BATES

PRICES AS USUAL.
Doors open at half-past 7 to commence 8 o'clock. Box
Sheet open from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. mat 9

JULES RUEFF,
HAS NOW IN STOCK

The following Goods
Which he offers to the Trade at the
Lowest Market Rates:

200 bbls No 1. S. I. SUGAR
200 bbls No 2. do do
10 Tons No 2. do in Bags
200 bbls S 1 MOLASSES
100 kegs Heavy GOLDEN SYRUP
20 cases P. & M.'S YEAST POWDER
50 chests U. S. TEA

COFFEE—Rio, Java and Kawa
BUTTER—Oregon and Isthmus
CURRENTS—In tins, boxes and bbls
LIVERPOOL SALT—Fine and Coarse
CANDLES—Price's, Taylor's & German
SOAP—Castile, California and Victoria
LOBSTERS,
OYSTERS,
TOMATOES,
PEACHES,
PINE-APPLE,
TURKEY,
CHICKEN, &c., &c.,

200 cases SWEET OIL, Plagnoil & Possel Fils
30 cases SARDINES, halves and quarters

MATCHES—Polka's, California and Wax Vestas
FRENCH PRESERVES,
FRENCH VINEGAR

50 kegs Oregon and Eastern DRIED APPLES

California and Eastern Cheese

Pickle,
Pie Fruits,
Oatmeal,
Cornmeal,
Split Peas,
Pearl Barley,
Lard,

And a general assortment of CASE GOODS.

LIQUOR IN BULK.

ALASKA CODFISH, new every week

10 TONS NO. 1 SEED WHEAT,
FLOUR—EXTRA & SUPERFINE.
&c. &c. &c.

JULES RUEFF,
april 2d dwt

Wharf street.

Agricultural & Horticultural Society

A MEETING OF THE SUBSCRIBERS

At this Society will be held at the office of Mr. Robert Murray, Government street, on Friday, April 1st, at 2 p.m., when the proposted bill for the forthcoming exhibition will be read and discussed.

J. CHESTNEY BALES, Hon. Sec'y

GEORGE ROBINSON,
DENTIST.

RESPECTFULLY INFORMS

his friends and the public that he has

opened an office at SHAKESPEARE'S PHO-

TOGRAPHY ROOM, Government street,

and hopes thereby to be enabled to give more prompt at-

tention to the increasing demands upon his services by

public patronage.

TERM moderate and satisfaction guaranteed.

GEORGE HOURS FROM 11 TILL 4.

Terms moderate and satisfaction guaranteed.

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THE BRITISH COLONIST.

Friday Morning, April 1, 1870.

Shipping Intelligence.

PORT OF VICTORIA, BRITISH COLUMBIA.

ENTERED
March 21—Star Call Orca, Rogers, Nanaimo
Sip Ocean Queen, Dwyer, San Juan
C. E. R. D.
March 31—Star Call Orca, Rogers, Astoria
Star Express, Swanston, New Westminster
Star Anna, Ettershank, Nanaimo
Sip Alarum, Dwyer, San Juan

Legislative Council.

WEDNESDAY, March 30th 1870

EDDY'S PETITION.

Dr Carroll moved that the petition of Peter Eddy be referred to a Select Committee.

The Attorney-General said, the petition was one that should not come before the Council. It was of such a character as would take up old scores, and too much of this sort of thing had been done already. It was not a regular way to impeach a Chief Justice.

Mr Walkem seconded the amendment of Mr Drake.

He said that appointing a committee was of no possible use; and related the case of a Council committee which had been appointed to consider a petition of Mr Nicholson against the action of the Chief Justice of Vancouver Island. The result was that none of the officers of the Court would attend the summons of the committee, nor could the committee compel the production of any documents in the case.

Or, if the Chief Justice should attend on the committee proposed to be appointed, what would be the effect? Only to negative what the petition affirmed. He knew as a matter of fact that Mr Eddy had been injured—but there was no power here to deal with the matter. The Executive could find a way to deal with the matter.

The Attorney General asked what the Executive could do in case they found all the complaints in the petition true?

Mr Walkem—They could establish a Court of Appeal either permanently or temporarily. This Council could not sit in review on the Courts.

Mr Rugg said, many a time and oft has this House been encumbered with petitions calling for a Court of Appeal. We cannot form ourselves into a Court of Appeal. The Courts of law of England invite appeal, and instead of being met with a similar benefit here we are denied the right. He trusted that such a state of things should cease and that a Court of Appeal would be established at once. To discuss matters of this sort, we could not enter into the merits of the case here. It would be idle to do so. He would impress upon the Executive the crying necessity of having a Court of Appeal established at once, that one person should not have power over the life and future of one poor struggling man—that he should deprive a man of his life and property. He would therefore move as an amendment that, in the opinion of this Council, a Court of Appeal should be established as soon as possible, in order that the petitioner may have an opportunity of bringing his case before it.

Mr Robson was sorry to observe a disposition on the part of the Attorney-General to kill the petition without affording members perhaps less familiar than himself with the circumstances of this particular case, an opportunity of dealing with it on its own merits. This was no time to say the petition had no right here. It was before the House, and it now became honourable members to faithfully discharge a sacred and important duty—a duty they owe not alone to the petitioner, but to those gentlemen the petition is impugned.

One of these gentlemen, who is a member of this House, had expressed a desire for investigation, and it was due to all concerned that such investigation should not be Burked. It was objected that this was an attempt to rouse up old scores, but we regarded it rather as an attempt to get rid of an old, festering sore, and he felt sure that judge, jury and sheriff would all desire investigation. The right of petition was a most sacred one, and it was the duty of the House alike to preserve it and to guard it against abuse.

He thought it would be doing justice to the parties accused instead of an injury; and the public mind might be disengaged of prejudice and possible misapprehension. What do we find, as a matter of fact? A man coming here who is not able to appeal to the Privy Council. It is utterly impossible to avail himself of such a course, and he takes the course open to every man—the sacred right which belongs to every subject of the Queen. Let us, then, approach the matter in the light of our responsibilities, and do an act of justice to the petitioner, and do not deal with the matter in the way proposed by the Attorney General. Let justice be done.

Mr Alston said he opposed the reception of the petition in the first instance and he would also now oppose its reference to a Select Committee. It was entirely a question of law and justice, and one that had been decided by the Courts. Suppose all the statements in the petition are true, nothing can be done by this Council in the matter. A Court of Appeal is the only remedy.

Mr Humphreys said the country had suffered enough already in such matters, and without a Court of Appeal there was no other remedy than the one taken by the petitioner. The right of petition was a sacred thing, and this was had taken every measure within his power and this is his only resource.

Whether the allegations were true or false, it was the duty of the Council to estimate the matter. Such cases had the effect of bringing the Courts of the colony into disrepute. He would, therefore, move as an amendment that the petition be submitted to a Committee of the Whole, and that the Petitioner, with counsel, be heard at the Bar of the House.

Mr Wood thought it very desirable that the matter should be investigated in order to clear the character of the officers of the Court, but the charges were of such a character that they could not be dealt with by this Council. Who ever heard tell of the House of Commons in England sitting in judgment on the acts of the Courts? It was not competent for this Court. He would, therefore, move as an amendment that the petition be referred to a Committee of the Whole, and that the Petitioner, with counsel, be heard at the Bar of the House.

The CRICKET MATCH.—The Fleet and Esquimalt Eleven for the Match to-morrow are: Capt Lyons, Messrs A. B. Thomas, J. O. Thomas, Colwell, Stewart, Evelyn, Mallard, O'Green, R. Green, Howard and Ross. The Captain of the F & E Eleven is A. B. Thomas; of the V. Eleven, C. E. Pooley. Wickets pitched at 10:30 o'clock.

DEAN.—General Thomas, commander of the U.S. forces on this coast, died at San Francisco on Wednesday. Gen. Thomas spent some days in Victoria last year.

The steamship California, with a few passengers, sailed yesterday morning at 5:30 o'clock for Portland.

COACHES.—Two new Concord coaches for Barnard's Express Line were shipped by the Enterprise yesterday.

The Agricultural and Horticultural Society will meet at Mr. Burnaby's office at 2 o'clock this afternoon.

he was prepared to maintain. He thought the Council ought to have the matter explained by those who were better informed than any in the Council.

Mr Holbrook said he was opposed to referring the matter to a Select Committee. He said to entertain petitions of this character would be a great injury to commercial men who trusted their goods to parties to take up the country and after selling them refuse to pay for them. They would have no protection whatever from the Courts of law.

Mr O'Reilly said he was quite willing to have the fullest investigation in the matter and would court enquiry rather than offer any opposition.

Mr Drake moved the following amendment: That the petition of Peter Eddy be referred to his Excellency the Governor, with a recommendation that his Excellency will take the same into consideration and grant such relief as the nature of the case demands.

He agreed with those who said this Council could not deal with the subject properly, and he felt sure the Executive Government would give the petition all the consideration it deserved.

Mr Walkem seconded the amendment of Mr Drake.

He said that appointing a committee was of no possible use; and related the case of a Council committee which had been ap-

pointed to consider a petition of Mr Nicholson against the action of the Chief Justice of Vancouver Island.

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struggling man—that he should deprive a man of his life and property. He would therefore move as an amendment that, in the opinion of this Council, a Court of Appeal should be established as soon as possible, in order that the petitioner may have an opportunity of bringing his case before it.

The motion to refer the petition to the Executive was carried—12 to 3.

BENEFIT OF MR. F. M. BATES.—Mr Bates, the well known and deservedly popular manager of the theatrical troupe, will take a benefit this evening at the Theatre Royal. The piece selected is the drama of the 'Lady of Lyons,' in which Mrs. Bates will fill the role of Pauline, and Mr. Bates that of Claude. It would be a work of supererogation were we to speak of the sacrifices Mr Bates has made in his efforts to maintain a thoroughly legitimate and respectable company at our theatre, and thus afford our citizens amusement of a chaste and moral character. The gentleman's experience is well understood, and we believe that all will feel in incumbent upon them to testify by their presence to-night their appreciation of his dramatic merit and business pluck. In this connection we are reminded that 'Colleen Bawn' was announced for this evening, but has been withdrawn in consequence of the sudden indisposition of Mr. Vincent. The substitution of the 'Lady of Lyons' is, however, a happy one, and the house will not suffer by the change.

THE DELUGE KICK—A deputation of gentlemen from the Deluge Fire Company had an interview with His Excellency the Governor yesterday, for the purpose of securing the action of the Legislative Council in recommending a grant of \$1000 toward assisting the Company in paying for the new steam fire engine just received from England.

Niblock declared that the certificate in the office of the Secretary of State that Indians had ratified the Amendment was not true and was a fraud and imposition on the government.

After a discussion, Peters withdrew his motion of reference, and the House again went into committee.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Assuredly the Bates Dramatic Company deserve well of this community. The perseverance and ability with which they have played some of the best pieces of the age, and the enterprise displayed by the manager in producing fresh and attractive scenery are indeed deserving of all praise as well as of liberal patronage. Last night the drama from Mrs. Wood's celebrated novel entitled 'East Lynne' was played. The piece abounds in deep interest and is peculiarly fitted to draw out the high powers of Mrs. Bates, who took the two characters of Lady Isabel Carlyle and Madame Vine. The playing, as usual, was excellent.

ATTEMPTED BURGLARY.—About 9:30 o'clock on Wednesday night an attempt was

made to enter the grocery store of Mr Child, corner of Broad and Pandora streets. The thieves were startled by the return of the proprietor, who had been absent for half an hour. A well-worn shoe was picked up in the yard, which had apparently been dropped by one of the thieves in his flight. About three weeks ago a similar attempt was frustrated by the vigilance of Mr Child.

THE BISHOP OF QUESNEL AND MRS. HILLS.—The Bishop of Quesnel and Mrs. Hills are not expected to return before the beginning of 1871, and funds have been sent out by the Bishop to pay arrears of salaries to the end of 1869.

FIRE INQUEST.—An inquiry into the North Dairy Farm fire was held yesterday, and another Indian arrested on suspicion. A verdict of incendiarism was returned.

THE VELCOPIDE NUISANCE HAS BEEN REVIVED.

THE ALPACAS WILL COME AROUND FROM ESQUIMAU-TODAY.

ALL FOOL'S DAY.—THIS.

By Electric Telegraph.

SPECIAL TO THE DAILY BRITISH COLONIST.

LAST NIGHT'S DISPATCHES.

Eastern States.

WASHINGTON, March 29.—The news of the death of General Geo. H. Thomas occasioned intense sadness among circles here. A general order announcing his death to the army, was issued this afternoon. The President has addressed a telegram of condolence to Mrs. Thomas at San Francisco. The last and direst blow to him as a General and a soldier will be paid at Troy on the arrival of his remains. The friends of his family and all his comrades are invited to share in the obsequies. At the military post and stations flags will be displayed at half-mast and 100 guns will be fired on the day after the receipt of the order. The usual badges of mourning will be worn for thirty days.

WASHINGTON, March 30.—The speaker of the House presented a message from the President of the U.S., announcing the promulgation of the ratification of the 15th constitutional amendment, and characterizing it as a measure greater in importance than any of the kind from the foundation of the government; calling on Congress to do all in its power to encourage popular education throughout the country, and on the people to see that all who possess equal political rights shall have the opportunity to acquire knowledge to make the Constitutional amendment a blessing and not a danger. The Proclamation was read and received with applause on the floor and in the galleries.

Peters moved the reference of the Message and Proclamation to the Judiciary Committee.

Wood denied the special part of the Proclamation as to ratification by the State of New York, as his side of the House did not think that State had ratified the Amendment.

Niblock declared that the certificate in the office of the Secretary of State that Indians had ratified the Amendment was not true and was a fraud and imposition on the government.

After a discussion, Peters withdrew his motion of reference, and the House again went into committee.

California.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 31.—The bark Mary Belle Roberts sailed from San Francisco on the 18th for Bellingham Bay. The schooner Ocean Pearl is loading in San Francisco for Victoria and will sail on the 6th April.

DELAYED DISPATCHES.

Europe.

LONDON March the 23.—In the House of Lords last evening, the Coinage bill passed through the Committee, and the Consolidated Fund bill was read a second time. Adjourned.

Lord Claude Hamilton charged the Liberals, in their action, with having uniformly promoted agitation on the Irish question, in order to prescribe coercive measures.

Whately held that popery was the author of all the Irish disorders. Bryan of Killarney, objected to the powers intrusted to local magistrates as tyrannical and dangerous.

Forbes, Secretary for Ireland, denied that the Government had abdicated its functions in Ireland, or encouraged illusory as it had been charged. He was confident the power now asked would restore order. He discriminated between Fenianism and agrarianism. The original re-uits were the same, but he thought the acts themselves diff. rent.

Lord Alton charged the Government with having been instrumental in bringing about the present state of things in Ireland.

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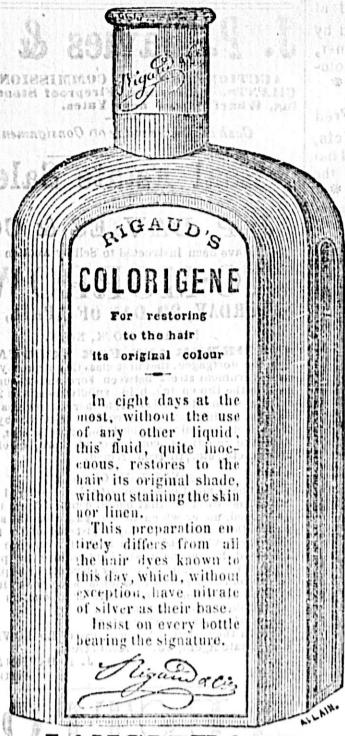
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Perfumery.

LANGLEY & CO.
AGENTS FOR MESSRS. RIGAUD & CO.
J.23RIGAUD & CO'S
Perfumery,
46 RUE DE RICHELIEU, PARIS.
Patronized by the French Court, and
extensively used in all fashionable Circles.RIGAUD'S TONIQUE
THE TOILET WATER OF THE DAY.Preserves the freshness of the skin and the fairness of
the complexion.

MIRANDA SOAP

Gives the skin a delightful lily surface and is all that
can be desired as a delightful perfume.

RIGAUD'S DENTORINE

A dentifice Elixir of unequalled virtues. Sweetens
breath, strengthens the gums and preserves the
teeth from decay.

SOLIDIFIED DENTIFRICE CREAM

A bright cream in water and Dentorine passed over it
produces a sticky and unctuous mucilage that gives the
teeth a brilliant whiteness.

MIRANDA OIL

18 bottles of 100 fl. oz. — AND —

Miranda Pomade

For preserving and beautifying the hair.

ROSE POWDER

Its superiority must be a cure. It is the preference of perfumers
and women of taste.

GENUINE YLANGYLANG PREPARATIONS

Offered genuine and incomparable with any other sold
under the same name. MESSRS. RIGAUD & CO. being the
only original importers.

EXTRACT OF YLANGYLANG

MANILLA BOUQUET

The two favorite perfumes for the handkerchief.

A CONSIGNMENT OF THE ABOVE

A elegant and superior toilet articles just received
by

LANGLEY & CO.,

AGENTS FOR MESSRS. RIGAUD & CO.
J.23

FOR QUALITY

WITH

ECONOMY:

YARDLEY'S

PRIZE MEDAL

Soaps

Are unequalled.

LANGLEY & CO.,

WHOLESALE & RETAIL

DRUGGISTS.

Agents for British Columbia

J.23

Firewood.

E. H. JACKSON,

DEALER IN CORD & STOVE WOOD.

Stove Wood Cut to Order,

Orders left with Mr T. L. Stahlhardt, Wharf street,
regularly attended to, where further information can be
obtained.

Mechanics' Literary Institute,

REWARD WILL BE PAID FOR

Information that will lead to the detection of
any person or persons who may have surreptitiously removed
any papers, magazines or books from the Library or
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